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# Why Publish in Spora?

Editorial Board
*Spora*

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**Cover Page Footnote**

Correspondence: Spora Journal Editorial Board, Dept. of Mathematics, Illinois State University, Campus Box 4520, Normal, IL, 61790-4520, USA

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Editorial Board[1],[*]

[*]Correspondence:
Spora Journal Editorial
Board, Dept. of Mathematics,
Illinois State University,
Campus Box 4520, Normal,
IL 61790-4520, USA
biomath@ilstu.edu

**Abstract**

This report provides additional information about Spora and outlines some of the benefits of publishing in this journal.

**Keywords:** undergraduate research, mathematical biology, faculty mentors

## 1   About the journal

To date, there is no journal reserved for illustrating the rapidly growing body of biomathematical research conducted by undergraduate researchers and their faculty mentors. Due to an overwhelming cry from students and faculty, Spora has answered this call. Spora is dedicated to publishing high quality manuscripts from primarily undergraduate authors whose research describes mathematical and statistical techniques to solve problems in biological settings. Submitted papers may take various forms, including development of a mathematical model of a biological system, possibly including experimental work; development of a particular solution or method related to biological systems; or computational, statistical, or theoretical analysis of existing mathematical models in biology. Accepted papers will demonstrate an appropriate range of interdisciplinary content and clear exposition, at a level expected from undergraduate authors.

Spora will publish results from two categories: research and exposition. Regardless of the category, at least 50% of the authors must be undergraduates at the time the work was completed.

The research section publishes high quality articles, written (or co-written) by students during their undergraduate careers, of novel, as well as established, mathematical and statistical approaches to biological hypotheses. Manuscripts should employ an interdisciplinary approach and should be of interest to a wide spectrum of scientists from related fields. Interdisciplinary research from any sub-discipline within the life sciences in conjunction with any sub-discipline within the mathematical and statistical sciences will be considered.

The exposition section will publish high quality expository articles, written by students during their undergraduate careers, that describe particular areas of mathematical biology research. Manuscripts may consist of undergraduate capstone projects or reviews, consisting of critical and constructive analysis of the literature in a specific field. For reviews, it is also appropriate to include mention of relevant software or instrumentation.

## 2   Advantages of publishing in Spora

In addition to filling above listed gaps in the existing literature, Spora is currently the only research journal in biomathematics dedicated to undergraduate research. Furthermore, the rapid review process will help ensure fair publication of results of the highest quality in a timely manner.

A primary goal of Spora is to make undergraduate research in biomathematics freely and quickly accessible to the public. Thus this journal will be further set apart from existing journals in its fast review and rapid turnaround, open access to readers, and low publication fee.

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[1]Department of Mathematics, Illinois State University, Normal, IL